



PostScript

The Official Magazine of the Oxford University
Scout & Guide Group

ISSUE 2 OF
MICHAELMAS
TERM 2001

NUMBER 332

LOOK OUT FOR THE
NEXT EXCITING
ACTION PACKED
EPISODE OF 'SIMON'

Contents

1. Chair's report
2. Millennium
Volunteers
Simon
3. Winter Walking
4. Alphabet
Word Search

Call For Articles

The next PostScript will be the last one in this year, so get your computer out and write an article for the next issue.

OUSGG as Big as Ever!

Hello to all you wonderful OUSGG members old and new,

Well its great that as Chair I can report that things are going really well this term, the attendance at meetings has been fantastic and its fab to see that all those who joined at the start of term have realised that its well worth staying around. If you are one of our new members, then thanks for coming along and making this term such a success so far, you make all our efforts well worth it. And to all current members who have been involved this term, thank you so much for pitching in, for all the advice and general being so helpful.

This Monday was my favourite night of the term so far, arriving to see 28 people gathered round a huge glowing bonfire singing campfire songs was enough to make your chair swell with pride. The great thing about Scout and Guidey people like yourselves, is the way every one is happy to find themselves a job to do, great team work folks! I think much yummy hot food was had by all, lots of you got to try making dampers and to sample Tristam's wonderful sausages (and I am not being sarcastic dear editor). Everyone enjoyed a great fireworks display thanks to our resident pyromaniacs. I personally loved the experience of relaxing (eventually) under the trees by the glowing embers of our lovely campfire and toasting the remainder of the marshmallows.

Its not just the Monday meetings that have been enlightened by the presence of freshers either. Quite a few have discovered the joys

of a chance to eat lunch and chat on a Thursday lunch time at N+N. For those of you that haven't come along yet, you are most welcome to join us at 1.00pm on Thursdays in Wadham, there will be lots of chocolate biscuits should you need any more encouragement.

Of course there is also more to come this term....

This Monday is Monopoly Mania, which will be a nice calm evening of monopoly playing, unless of course things get a bit competitive on the hotel ownership front. If you have never played this monumental king of all board games then Monday will be a great introduction. I am sure Rob will be able to give you all the history of the game and tips that you could ever want and more. For more established veteran players there will be different versions of the traditional game to try out, including the newly released Oxford version.

So hears hoping that the rest of my term continues to be popular and problem free (well almost).

Lastly the award for outstanding commitment by a fresher to OUSGG, must go to Nicholas who successful cycled all the way to Youlbury in time for the fireworks.

Lots of love from Christina your
Marshmallow munching Chair. xx

Millennium Volunteers (MV)

Amanda Kermunslow

For those of you that volunteer for "stuff" regularly, such as helping out or leading in Guiding or Scouting or any other voluntary activity that helps the community (first aid, access schemes, conservation etc.), bear in mind the Millennium Volunteers Scheme. This is a government initiative to award young volunteers. Basically, if you're under 25 and you do 100 hours of volunteering in a year, it's worth registering for this scheme.

What do you get out of it?

A nice certificate and a bunch of CV points. Lots of employers support this scheme. You can also get money to help pay expenses such as travel expenses.

What will it take up of your time?

Not a lot - twenty minutes to fill in the registration form and 5 minutes occasionally to update your records and work out how long things took to do.

If you do 100 hours of volunteering within a year of registering, you get a certificate. If you do 200 hours in that year, you get an Award of Excellence. You have to be under 25 when you start... but you can finish after your 25th birthday. Basically, it's some nice and well recognised and understood by businesses CV points for very little more than what you do already. Frequently, businesses don't "get" what Scouting/Guiding means on a CV, but they will understand MV.

So, do you think you can clock up enough hours?

There are 4 headings under which you count your time, "research", "preparation", "travel" and "activity".

Let's take a Guide unit (sorry, Guides is what I do, so it's what I know about) and really look at a minimum of activity with this unit.

For an average Guide meeting you've maybe got one and a half hours for the actual meeting and half an hour to travel there and back. That makes 2 hours per meeting. If you do say 24 meetings a year (allowing for only helping out during the short Oxford Uni Full Term period), that's 48 hours... not a lot but half way to 100 hours.

But say you prepare an activity for every other meeting. Allow half an hour for research and then another half hour for preparation and you've got an hour. If you prepare for 12 meetings, that's 60 hours already.

Add in a district (equivalent to a "Group" in Scouting) meeting once a term (half an hour travelling, 2 hour meeting)... we're up to 67 ½ hours.

Now add in a single day trip out (filling in forms, sorting your uniform and all the stuff you need to take, travelling there, taking the members on the activity, travelling back) that's at least 8 hours. Total so far is 75 ½ hours.

How about a single overnight trip? Say leaving home at 10 am... going to bed at 11 pm (13 hours), then getting up at 8 am and getting home at 6 pm (10 hours). If you get woken in the night or are the guider in charge, you can count the night hours too. But 23 hours awake and we're up to 98 ½ hours and nearly at 100 hours and the MV certificate.

If you're likely to do more... a couple of things from a longer camp or holiday as leader, join in more outside-the-meeting place activities, go to more meetings than just 24 in the year, do a bit more preparation, maybe some record keeping for the unit, perhaps take on another voluntary role, then you're getting comfortably close to 200 hours and the Award of Excellence.

Has anyone else in OUSGG done this?

Well I (Amanda) have - I've just completed 200 hours (in under 3 months - I must be mad!) and am waiting to receive this Award of Excellence thing. Phil was talking about doing it too. You can ask me questions about it and I will try to answer and you can have a look at my MV file at an N'n'N or Monday meeting if you ask me beforehand to bring it (aendr-guides@earth.li).

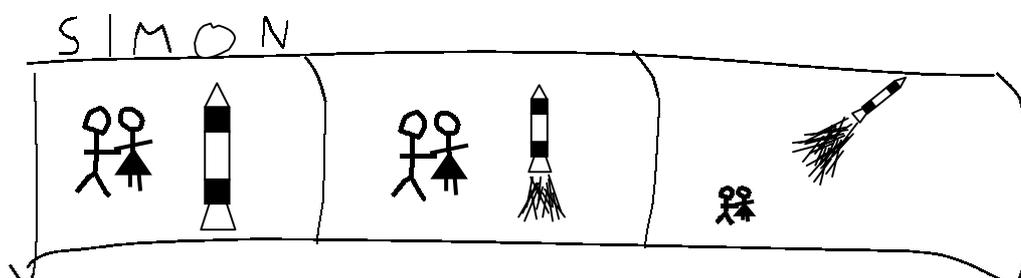
How do you register?

Well, there are a couple of routes.

I did this through "MV Direct" which is for existing volunteers. Their website is <http://www.mvdirect.co.uk/> and their phone number is 0800 085 1624.

There is a local MV group in Oxfordshire at <http://www.oxfordshire.mv.care4free.net/> phone 01235 533711 or email MV-Abingdon@btcv.org.uk and it is via this method that I think you can get your travel expenses etc. paid.

The national organization website is at <http://www.millenniumvolunteers.gov.uk/> and this has the most info about what MV is about if you want to know more before you start



Winter Walking

Phil Alderton

Schubert's greatest song cycle is undoubtedly "Winterreise" (Winter journey): a depressing set of songs about a lonely man trudging through the snow, unhappy with his lot. Indeed, such was its power that the composer himself was affected by it. The greatest event in the OUSGG calendar, however, is "Winter Walking": an inspiring and enjoyable six days spent with friend trudging through the snow, laughing at the face of adversity. The dissimilarities do not end there, mind you. Take, for instance, the first two lines of the first song:

"I came here a stranger - as a stranger I depart." Well, with Winter Walking you come known to everyone else (aside from the Old Members, but don't worry about them - they don't bite), and you leave in the company of friends. Yes, indeed, OUSGG's "Winterreise" is a heck of a lot merrier than Schubert's.

This year we'll be going to the Lake District, staying at the South Lakeland Scout Base, from Friday, 28th December to Thursday, 3rd January. The programme will consist mainly of walking (as the title of the trip may have subtly told you), but we aim to offer different lengths and difficulties of walks to cater for all degrees of fitness, idleness, or need for tea shops. The highlight of the week will be the New Year's Eve party, which is currently being planned, though a large banquet supported by courses of silly games seems to be the best idea, though you'll be welcome to contribute your own suggestions.

If you can't make it for the whole week, feel free to pop up for as long as you can, though I reckon you'll be sorry to leave.

The cost? I'm going to charge £10 a night, to cover accommodation, food, jelly babies, and fuel, but as with previous years this should be an overestimate. I'd like a deposit of £3 per night paid before Friday of 8th Week, with the balance paid by 20th December.

Further details are available from, and payment to, me, Phil Alderton, at St Peter's (philip.alderton@spc.ox.ac.uk). Mobile +44 (0) 7989 224 341

WINTER WALKING 2001/2002 - 28TH DECEMBER TO 3RD JANUARY

I, _____, wish to desert my family and the comforts of home and spend _____ nights (starting from _____ and leaving _____) with OUSGG in the middle of nowhere. To pay for this, I enclose a cheque (payable to Phil Alderton Esq.) for _____ to cover the deposit.

Any dietary requirements? _____

Any ideas for the New Year's Eve party? _____

Do you have a car?

Yes, and I'd be happy to let you all use it

Yes, but it's staying at home

I can't drive

I haven't got one

How do you plan to arrive?

Driving myself

Train

Bus

Would like to see if I could be picked up somewhere

Can pick people up

How do you solve a problem like Maria [ed: eh]? _____

Postal address: _____

Email (preferred): _____

Telephone: _____

Signature _____ Date _____

OUSGG Alphabet

Caroline Berry

A	Annual Dinner	Our Black Tie dinner every Trinity term
B	Bar	Often visited to socialise after Monday meetings
C	Christina	Chair and organiser for Michaelmas
	Chris	OUSGG's fountain of knowledge (he's been here for ever).
D	Democracy	Our excuse for faffing so much
E	Eri<	Our beloved panda mascot dressed in sub-fusc
	Email	How we find out what is going on
F	Fresher	What a member is until they write an article for PostScript
	Faff	OUSGG
	F&GPC	Faff and general planning committee
G	Garden	Used for BBQs
H	Hogan	Koala looked after by annual dinner organiser
I	In Jokes	Things which aren't funny but allow people to pretend they are
J	Jelly Babies	Prizes for competitions
K	Kit	Stuff you shouldn't forget when going away
L	Lunch	See NnN
M	Monday	Different time, different place, different event next week
N	NnN	Thursday lunchtime meeting
O	OUSGG	Ows-gee-gee
	Old Members	People who live in the real world, but pop back for trips
P	Punt'n'Picnic	Punting with a hang over after the BTD
	Postscript	This
Q	Quartermaster	Committee post responsible for ordering new ropes
R	Rally	Meet other university SGGs for a weekend trip
S	Sheep	Ask Natalie or Chris
	SSAGO	Student Scout and Guide (dis)Organisation
T	Trips	A chance to get away
U	Uniform	[ed: I don't think Caroline could think of a relevant U]
V	Valley	You see this when you go walking [ed: this is getting ropey]
W	Wadham	NnN is here this term
	Website	http://www.ousgg.org.uk/
	Winter Walking	Winter trip every xmas
X	[ed: X-Ray	Hopefully we wont be needing any of these]
Y	Yes	Your answer to "will you stand for a committee post
Z	ZZZZ	Sleep after tiring events

I hope you all enjoyed that, and it gave you an idea of what OUSGG is, now find the words in the word search. [ed: assuming I copied it out right :)]

O	I	L	K	Y	S	S	O	L	F	T	F	&	G	P	C	X	N	H
L	N	Q	L	D	R	A	H	C	I	R	H	R	E	U	S	W	E	I
D	G	U	J	U	J	E	N	N	I	O	E	S	E	E	W	L	Y	
M	M	A	M	A	N	D	A	P	M	P	H	Q	K	H	R	V	E	A
E	L	R	V	C	I	C	H	R	I	S	P	O	T	T	L	I	H	P
M	G	T	A	B	F	A	H	F	L	E	J	T	L	S	Z	Y	K	T
B	N	E	L	J	O	E	X	T	L	N	A	A	A	T	R	F	G	R
E	I	R	L	E	R	F	I	N	I	M	E	H	T	E	R	A	G	I
R	K	M	E	L	M	A	Z	L	B	M	F	D	B	V	E	A	Q	S
S	L	A	Y	L	A	F	Z	Z	A	R	E	H	S	E	R	F	C	T
T	A	S	E	L	E	F	W	I	Z	T	P	M	C	D	L	H	A	A
S	W	T	L	B	S	I	L	M	O	Z	A	V	E	N	K	I	R	M
Q	R	E	Y	A	N	N	U	A	L	D	I	N	N	E	R	R	O	B
R	E	R	A	B	U	G	A	H	Z	I	E	N	A	N	T	J	L	K
C	T	V	H	I	S	A	Z	D	O	H	C	K	Y	K	A	I	I	N
S	N	A	M	E	Q	S	A	A	Z	C	H	R	I	S	T	I	N	A
T	I	T	Y	S	U	X	A	W	X	&	O	E	A	M	K	A	E	G
S	W	E	B	S	I	T	E	G	N	A	G	A	G	&	I	A	M	B
O	P	S	E	D	G	G	S	U	O	K	A	N	O	D	D	Y	D	O
P	U	T	N	&	C	I	N	C	I	P	N	T	N	U	P	P	M	&